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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 8289

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TAGS: SENV, UR

SUBJECT: US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT - TSUNAMI WARNING PROJECT

REF: MOSCOW 17552

SCI COUNS REQUESTED DELIVER FOLLOWING LETTER TO DR. IZRAEL:

"I HAVE JUST RECEIVED A CABLE FROM OUR EMBASSY IN MOSCOW ADVISING THAT, IN RESPONSE TO MY LETTER OF OCTOBER 30 ON THE NOVEMBER 29-DECEMBER 13 VISIT OF THE SOVIET DELEGATION TO INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITY OF A CONSOLIDATED TSUNAMI WARNING SYSTEM AS SET FORTH IN THE NOVEMBER 16, 1973, MEMORANDUM OF THE US-USSR JOINT COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, YOU PROPOSED TO HAVE THE SOVIET TEAM LIMIT ITS VISIT TO THE CONTINENTAL U.S. WITHOUT VISITING HAWAII.

I RECALL OUR DISCUSSION ON THIS MATTER, AND ALTHOUGH I HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED YOUR FORMAL RESPONSE TO MY LETTER, I HASTEN TO URGE THAT THE SOVIET DELEGATION VISIT THE TSUNAMI WARNING CENTER IN HAWAII. THIS CENTER IS THE HEART OF THE U.S. TSUNAMI PROGRAM AND, FROM OUR VIEWPOINT, WOULD CONSTITUTE THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THE SOVIET DELEGATION'S VISIT. WE HAVE INCLUDED A VISIT TO CALIFORNIA IN THE ITINERARY, FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH SCIENTISTS OF THE INSTITUTIONS YOU NAMED. IF, AS I HOPE, WE ARE TO DEVELOP IN 1975 AN EFFECTIVE PROGRAM FOR CONSOLIDATING WARNING SYSTEMS, SUCH VISITS ARE ESSENTIAL. I THEREFORE REQUEST THAT THE SOVIET TEAM INCLUDE HAWAII IN ITS ITINERARY, WHICH WE WILL HANDLE ON A RECEIVING-SIDE-PAYS BASIS AS AGREED PREVIOUSLY.

SINCERELY,

ROBERT M. WHITE

ADMINISTRATOR,

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION"

NOAA WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING PRIOR TO THANKSGIVING IF SOVDEL NOT COMING AS SCHEDULED ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29. INGERSOLL

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Environment, Tsunami Warnings